

## Curriculum GlobALE leads the way for Training of Master Trainers in Laos

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The Training of Master Trainers brought together adult and non-formal education practitioners from across Laos for a training based on DVV International's Curriculum GlobALE.

DVV International (Regional Office for Asia and South East Asia) and the Non-Formal Education Development Centre (NFEDC) of Laos, along with ASPBAE, RMIT University (Melbourne), and UNESCO Bangkok, undertook the 5<sup>th</sup> workshop in a series of six as part of its Training of Master Trainers (ToMT) project in Laos.

The ToMT brought together adult and non-formal education practitioners from around the country for a training based on DVV International's Curriculum GlobALE (Global Curriculum for Adult Learning and Education). The GlobALE framework is designed to be adapted to any national context and represents an effort to increase the professionalization of adult education on a global scale.

The focus of the workshop was not only on the topics of communication and group dynamics, but it was also an exercise in looking back in order to look forward. Participants had previously been asked to design and conduct their own training using the new methods and skills acquired in earlier workshops, and they had delivered these during the course of the past six months. A lot of learning was unpacked by the group from these experiences, and

reflection formed a core part of the first day. A foundational part of this reflection were the role plays, designed to reflect some of the problems participants had encountered or may encounter in their future work. There was also a presentation of a reflection by two participants who had both conducted gender workshops but in two very different settings – one with district government officials and one in an ethnic minority village.

As might be expected, the themes of the workshop lent themselves to some very funny, and at times perplexing, games and activities to lead into the deeper theoretical learning. The previous workshop and this one both took place away from the hometowns of the participants and this was something that not only allowed them to give their full attention to the workshop but to also bond together more deeply. Evenings playing *petanque* (a local Lao ball game) and exploring the local restaurants added to the atmosphere and enjoyment, as did a small study tour to a local organic farm and Community Learning Centre.

This was the first time Curriculum GlobALE was used in Asia and a lot of work was done to consider its use in the Lao context. At the conclusion of the training, the participants and the trainers expressed that the discussions and experience sharing had deepened their own understanding of and commitment to adult education.

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